

services to the public, and they should have access to masks and other equipment to keep themselves safe.

The fourth step is expanding contact tracing, another area where we see a patchwork of policies across the country rather than a cohesive national effort.

To work, contact tracing must occur immediately after an individual is found to be infected. A team determines everyone with whom an infected individual had recent close contact and encourages them to get tested, self-isolate, and monitor their health.

Right now, on average, everyone who gets COVID passes it to more than one other person. In other words, the spread is increasing, often by those who don't know they have been exposed. Contact tracing will help solve that.

The logistics, however, often aren't feasible for local governments. That is why a Federal contact tracing program, possibly using Peace Corps and AmeriCorps volunteers as has been suggested, is so important.

Finally, the fifth area is the need for a plan to manufacture and distribute a vaccine once it is developed.

A key component is determining priorities for vaccine distribution. Should it go first to essential workers on the frontlines? Or should it go to people most likely to get the virus, the vulnerable populations, and those in hard-hit areas? These aren't easy questions, and we should work on answers now.

We also need to handle the logistics involved to ensure rapid distribution of the vaccine nationwide.

These are obvious challenges, but they are also complex, and we need a plan in place now, ahead of vaccine development, rather than waiting until a vaccine is developed.

In addition to those five health-related planks, I also believe we need a coordinated plan to help the small businesses and workers suffering during this time.

One example is the Paycheck Protection Program that helped many small businesses. The program provides forgivable loans if businesses use funds on employee salaries and other necessities to remain afloat, which will allow them to quickly reopen when it is safe.

Another example is the additional \$600 in unemployment benefits in the CARES Act. This assistance allows millions of families to pay rent, cover bills, buy food, and contribute to the economic recovery. Unfortunately, that vital aid has lapsed.

Since mid-March, more than 60 million Americans have filed for unemployment benefits. Today, more than 30 million people continue to depend on these benefits.

We can't cut these lifelines until jobs are available for those out of work. If the economy remains shuttered and we do nothing to help families and businesses, we are telling millions of Americans that we don't care they are hurting.

Moreover, we are hurting our own economic recovery by taking aid from those who most need it, the very people who are most likely to spend it to support the economy.

The Federal Government exists for a reason, and that is to help Americans do things they can't do for themselves. The same goes for States, which are responsible and powerful but can't do it on their own.

A global pandemic calls for a robust Federal response, which must entail a national response plan. And that plan has to be based on science and on data, not politics.

Thank you.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING MAAG PRESCRIPTION AND MEDICAL SUPPLY

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month, I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today I am pleased to honor Maag Prescription and Medical Supply in Pocatello as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for August 2020 and congratulate them on 70 years of business.

Maag Prescription and Medical Supply is an independent, locally owned pharmacy which has been operated by the Maag family since 1950. Established by Irvin and Genevieve Maag, the couple ran all aspects of the business and quickly developed a reputation for providing exemplary service while meeting the specific needs of their customers. As the business flourished and ownership transitioned to their son and daughter-in-law, Greg and Kathy Maag, a fire ravaged the facility in 1977. Despite this obstacle, the Maags persevered and built a new storefront, expanding it three times to accommodate the business's growth. Maag Prescription and Medical Supply's resiliency and service to the community has not gone unnoticed. For the past 2 years the business received the Idaho State Journal's annual Reader's Choice Award.

Today, Maag Prescription and Medical Supply plays an important role serving the community and providing more than 20 jobs to Southeast Idaho in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Maags have made it a priority to support their customers while maintaining customer and employee safety. Their business stands as a true testament to American industriousness, exemplifying one of our Nation's most treasured values. Now, in one of the most economically uncertain times, their story reminds us of the importance of commitment to our communities and resilience in the face of adversity.

Congratulations to Greg and Kathy Maag, and all of the employees of Maag

Prescription and Medical Supply on being selected as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for August 2020. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 11:16 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 2163. An act to establish the Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys, to study and make recommendations to address social problems affecting Black men and boys, and for other purposes.

S. 3607. An act to extend public safety officer death benefits to public safety officers whose death is caused by COVID-19, and for other purposes.

S. 3637. An act to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to extend lease protections for servicemembers under stop movement orders in response to local, national, or global emergency, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

At 2:16 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6395. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2021 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, August 4, 2020, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 2163. An act to establish the Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys, to study and make recommendations to address social problems affecting Black men and boys, and for other purposes.

S. 3607. An act to extend public safety officer death benefits to public safety officers whose death is caused by COVID-19, and for other purposes.

S. 3637. An act to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to extend lease protections for servicemembers under stop movement orders in response to a local, national, or global emergency, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5218. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting,